

REMARKS

Claims 1-37, 39, 46-52 and 54-79 have been cancelled. Claims 38-45 and 53 are currently pending.

5 Petition for Extension of Time

A petition for a 3-month extension of time is enclosed along with a credit card payment form for the required fee.

Request for Continued Examination (RCE)

10 This Amendment E is being submitted in conjunction with a request for continued examination (RCE). Applicants respectfully request entry of this Amendment E prior to initial examination. The RCE fee is enclosed along with a credit card payment form for the required fee.

15 Deposit Account Authorization

Applicants believe that no additional fees are necessary at this time. However, in the event additional fees are required, Applicants authorize the Commissioner to take any necessary fees, including those under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17, from deposit account 50-0913.

20 A Brief Review of One Embodiment of Applicants' Invention

In one embodiment of Applicants' invention, a table game system is provided that allows a player to place a side wager in conjunction with a primary game. The use of a video display, such as an LCD screen, may allow for dynamic side wager presentations to be presented to the

player, increasing player interest and therefore encouraging players to play longer and generating more revenue for the gaming establishment. *See* pages 5, 7, and 45.

Applicants teach that the video display can be used for a variety of purposes. A video hub may receive a variety of independent video content sources that are displayed on the video display. For example, the video display may present sporting, news, or other video entertainment, text, or banners. *See* page 44. The video content source may be sources such as a VCR, television, cable video source, DVD, or a hard disk drive. *See, e.g.,* page 32. The video content may be generated by sources that are independent of the table game or the table equipment. For example, a live sporting event may be down loaded using a satellite link. This video content is generated from sources that are completely separate and independent from the table game apparatus.

When used as part of the side wager game, the video display may display animation sequences relating to the side wager game. For example, Applicants disclose a game called “follow the queen” where images of three cards are displayed and animated on the video screen. A moveable player input device mounted on the table game allows for a player to choose from several game options, *See* pages 44-45.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

The Office rejected claims 38-45 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,769,693 issued to Huard (hereinafter “Huard 693”). Huard 693 purports to disclose a “Method and System for Playing a Casino Game”.

U.S. Patent No. 6,769,693 to Huard was filed on July 26, 2001.

The present application has a filing date of December 19, 2001 and claims priority to provisional application serial numbers 60/256,363, filed December 19, 2000, entitled “Method

and Apparatus for Adding Pick-A-Jackpot”; and Serial Number 60/326,434, filed October 1, 2001, entitled “Video Table Game Apparatus, System, and Method of Use.”

The present application has an earlier effective filing date than the cited Huard 693 reference. Therefore, Huard 693 is not a prior art reference and cannot be used as a prior art
5 reference in the instant application.

Applicants respectfully request the Office to withdraw the §102(e) rejection.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Office rejected claim 53 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being anticipated by
10 Huard 693 in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,146,270 issued to Huard (hereinafter “Huard 270”).
Huard 270 purports to disclose an “Auxiliary Game with Random Prize Generation”.

As previously discussed under the 102(e) rejection, U.S. Patent No. 6,769,693 issued to Huard is not a prior art reference and cannot be used as a prior art reference in the instant application.

15 Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the Office to withdraw the §103(a) rejection.

Information Disclosure Statement

An information disclosure statement is enclosed.

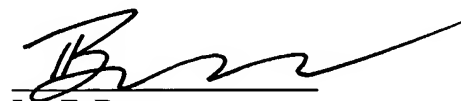
Conclusion

For all of the above reasons, the Applicants submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions regarding the application or amendment, the Examiner is encouraged to call the Applicants' attorney at (775) 826-6160.

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Respectfully Submitted,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ian F. Burns', written over a horizontal line.

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